

THIRTY-THIRD YEAR OF PUBLICATION

# TOC H JOURNAL

May  
1955

NEWS • VIEWS • IDEAS



Letters and articles are welcomed and are printed as individual points of view, and are not necessarily those of the Movement

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Cover Picture: Sir Giles Squire talking to Owekitibwa Paulo Karuma, Katikiro (Prime Minister) of Buganda, and Charles Potts, Hon. Commissioner, Toc H, Uganda. (See article on page 164)

(Reproduced by courtesy of the Department of Information, Uganda)

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## 1016 AND ALL THAT

ACCORDING to the recently published Annual Report, 1016 was the total number of Toc H Branches in Britain at the end of last year. Although in the past this figure has seldom been exceeded, we may well ask why it should not now take an upward trend? Whilst it is neither desirable, nor ever likely, that Toc H should grow into a mass movement, it is essential for continued vitality that it should be constantly putting out fresh roots.

A large number of the 1016 Branches were in being before World War II, and include in their ranks many men with twenty or more years' membership. The amount of enthusiasm and hard work contributed between them is enormous; but it must be recognised that the prospect of their being able to attract younger men is not always a rosy one. In happier condition are those Branches containing members who saw service in the Forces during the last war, and are thus able to provide a link with those whom National Service takes along a path similar to one they have themselves trod.

While there are many large towns and cities where it should still be possible to establish further Branches, in addition to those already in existence, it is usually admitted that the ground is likely to prove more fertile in the rural areas and smaller places. In this tightly packed island there still exist a very great number of spots where Toc H has never yet had opportunity to take root, to fire men's enthusiasm and win their loyalty.

This is no pipe-dream from an ivory tower in Westminster, for month by month the JOURNAL feature *From All Parts* regularly records new beginnings in widely differing places. Behind the necessarily brief, factual, note is often the story of an adventure in which members, after overcoming their own hesitation and shyness, have set out and "canvassed a community" with the happiest results. In such ways, small groups of men today are forging fresh links and helping others towards building Toc H for tomorrow.

# BILL GETS A CLUE — 5

by JOHN DURHAM

Earlier instalments have recorded 'Bill' Davidson's impressions after he had stumbled by chance on a Toc H Branch Meeting. Here he sups with the Branch Padre and picks-up quite a bit of information

THE CHURCH CLOCK was striking seven as I rang the Vicarage bell. The Vicar opened the door, and led me into a stone-paved hall the walls of which were lined with books.

'It's rather a lovely house,' he said, 'and we're really very lucky to have it. Most of it's Jacobean, as you noticed.' [I hadn't, not knowing anything about architecture.] 'Cromwell used it as a hospital for his soldiers at one time. It's not impossibly large either, now we've turned the top half into a separate flat. You're fond of it, my dear, aren't you?', and he turned towards his wife who had just joined us. I liked the look of her, and not least her kind and humorous eyes.

'Very much indeed,' she answered, 'but don't let's bore Mr. Davidson with rhapsodies about the house. He may not be interested in architecture. It's so like showing visitors photographs of one's children. The wretched visitor doesn't know them and probably hopes he never will. And the children are so often in the nude, and that's so shame-making for them if they're there themselves and still in their teens. Let's give Mr. Davidson a glass of sherry instead'; and we moved into a long, low room which looked out onto the garden.

'Which of you is the gardener?' I asked, 'or do you both do it?'

'I do most of it,' she said. 'Giles does a bit, of course, and he'd like to do more; but he really hasn't the time. You know, it's a delusion that a country parson won't be a busy man. But tell me, you're an engineer, aren't you? That must be an awfully satisfying job. I mean, creating things; like being an artist'; and I found myself quite naturally telling her about the work I was doing. I hadn't talked to people like this for ages. I suppose it's one of the marks of being

good hosts to take an interest in what the guest does. Anyhow, during supper we went on talking about industry, the kind of life people lead in it, and the relationship of employer and employed. I found that they knew a great deal more about it than I expected.

As we were finishing supper my hostess excused herself, explaining that she had a meeting to attend but that she hoped to be back before I left.

'Don't bother about the supper things,' she said; 'have your coffee in the garden. It's such a lovely evening.'

'I'll just clear the things away,' her husband promised. 'Now, off you go, my dear, or you'll be late.'

'Can't I give you a hand,' I asked, 'and what about the washing-up? It's revolting to come back late to it. Won't you let me help?'

'That's extremely nice of you, and I oughtn't to accept; but I'm going to all the same. Somebody once said to me that he thought that washing-up in other people's houses was a particularly Toc H sort of thing. I'm not quite sure what he meant, but if I may say so I think it's a sign of friendship.'

'Thank you very much.' I said. 'I'm glad to be treated like that. Tell me, how did you come to understand so much about industry? Were you ever in it?'

'Heavens no,' he replied, 'I've been a padre all the time. But I haven't always been in the country, and I've been a member of Toc H for a good many years.'

'I'm sorry, but I haven't quite got you. What's Toc H to do with you understanding about industry?'

'Oh, that's really very simple. If every week you've been meeting blokes who're doing almost every kind of job imaginable, you're bound to learn something about those jobs and the kind of life they have to lead—unless you're a completely unimaginative clot.'

'Do you meet every week throughout the year, then, in Toc H?'

'We do. Most Branches do, as a matter of fact. I think it's a great mistake if they don't. I can't see how you can create and keep up a fellowship if you don't.'

'I suppose you joined when you left the Forces.'

'Oh, dear me no. I joined long before that, when I was an undergraduate. Toc H isn't an ex-Service man's show.'

'I always thought it was. Who does join then?'

'Anybody I suppose who finds it his cup of tea and is

prepared to have a crack at the things it stands for. You must have found your first experience of it a bit odd, didn't you?"

"Well, to be honest, I did rather. Perhaps they told you I'd been looking for a game of snooker! I'd never had anything to do with Toc H, but I'd heard of it in the Army and thought they ran Clubs for men. But I thought they were the friendliest crowd I'd met. It took me back in ways to my own mob in the war."

"I'm very glad you were able to say that. In a way it's curious too because that was one of the reasons why Toc H carried on after the First World War when it was founded. It's one of the queer things about war; on top of all the muck you get virtues shining out that you don't get so much in peace time. I mean virtues like fellowship and comradeship and service. Good heavens, what a difference it would make if you could have them on the same scale when there wasn't a war! That's part of what Toc H is after."

By this time we had finished the washing-up and had taken our coffee into the garden. I've admitted that padres weren't much in my line, but this one seemed different and more human than most I had met.

"Do you go to Toc H here every week?" I asked him.

"No, I'm afraid not. I would if I could, but life really is rather busy. I hate missing an evening, though."

"May I ask you a straight question? Why do you go?"

"That's a perfectly fair question. Why do I go?" He paused for a moment. "There're a number of reasons, I suppose. I like being with men. That's one answer. I want fellowship and, being an ordinary kind of chap, I need it too. Well, I've got to admit that I've found more and better fellowship in Toc H Branches than anywhere else. That's an honest judgement. Of course, you'll find the Unit that's missed the bus; but I believe they're vastly in the minority. Then I'm all for the crowd that'll do a job that needs to be done. You saw what they were doing with Old Joe's market garden. Joe ought to be fit again in a week's time, but they'll look after his garden till then. From a padre's point of view, too, there's an awful lot to be said. Being a member brings you in touch with men you probably wouldn't meet. The kind of chap who wouldn't be seen dead in your church. That's a silly thing to say, because it's when he's dead that he comes to church. Padres always have the last word! But, seriously, I've met lots of blokes who are shy of religion and think the

Churches have shot their bolt. I probably wouldn't have met them if it hadn't been for Toc H.'

'Then you don't have to be a member of the Church to belong to Toc H?'

'Oh no, neither my Church nor any other Church. Lots of of them do belong to one or other of the Churches, and I personally believe that that's vital to Toc H. You see, if Toc H is really going to do its job there must be in every Branch a core of convinced Christians; and being a Christian has always meant being a member of a body of Christians, the worshipping community. There really isn't such a thing as a solitary Christian.'

'Do these chaps who fight shy of religion and all that, do they change their mind and start going to Church?'

'Some do. Not all of them. I'm sorry if they don't, of course; and it may be my fault. I may have put them off. But it would be all wrong to turn Toc H into a society that only Churchmen could belong to. You see, Toc H is essentially a fishing society; it tries to hook all kinds of men. There're obvious dangers in being that kind of show. You can become so wishy-washy that you don't believe in anything or stand for anything. But, my goodness me, the risk's worth taking; and over and over again it comes off.'

'Then, if I've got you right, you'd say that Toc H is a Christian society?'

'Yes, I would. At any rate, I think it tries to be. It really does stand for the belief that the Christian way of life is the only one that can make sense of life. And if you say that, then you can't be indifferent to what Our Lord said and did. But I've talked more than enough. What are you going to do when you leave Oldacre?'

I found myself telling him about Kit and our marriage next year, about the chap I had promised to see in the Radcliffe Infirmary and how I hated hospitals, and about the work that was immediately in front of me. When I looked at my watch, as I struck a match to light my pipe, I was surprised to see that it was nearly ten o'clock.

'Do you mind if we go in,' said the Padre, 'and get a cup of tea ready for Daphne? I know she'll want one when she gets back from her meeting. She shouldn't be long now. You'll stop and have one, won't you?'

We had nearly got the tea ready when his wife returned having, she said, successfully negotiated the perils attendant upon plans for a Women's Outing in the autumn.

As I sat drinking my tea I thought to myself that I hoped Kit and I would be as happy as they obviously were and that we'd be as kind and hospitable to a stranger. If that was being sentimental, I don't mind. It was what I felt. When I said good-bye to them, and told them how much I had enjoyed the evening, I meant it.

*[To be concluded]*

## *The Elder Brethren*

*At the going down of the sun and in the morning  
We will remember them*

ALEXANDER.—On March 21, EDWARD BRUCE ALEXANDER, aged 83, a foundation member and for many years a member of Colombo Branch.

BAGHURST.—On March 1, ARTHUR BAGHURST, aged 65, a member of Lydney Branch. Elected 29.8.'51.

BAILEY.—On March 1, FREDERICK WILLIAM BAILEY, ('Uncle Bill'), aged 84, a member of Richmond Branch. Elected 5.3.'31.

BODENSIECK.—On February 18, CARL AUGUST BODENSIECK, aged 78, a member of Kent Area General Members Branch. Elected 28.4.'26.

BROWN.—On March 13, STUART HOLLAND BROWN, aged 41 a member of Nantwich Branch. Elected 26.1.'48.

CLEWLEY.—On March 20, ROBERT DAVENPORT CLEWLEY, aged 55, a member of Hucknall Branch. Elected 29.5.'51.

FIELD.—On March 10, WILLIAM THOMAS FIELD, aged 57, a member of the former Walthamstow Branch. Elected 1.9.'48.

GILL.—On March 3, HERBERT BURTON GILL, aged 41, a founder member of Easingwold Branch. Elected 18.6.'53.

GUTHRIE.—On March 11, DONALD GUTHRIE, aged 36, a member of Hainault Group. Elected 19.8.'53.

JACK.—On February 24, the Rev. KEITH MEREDITH JACK, aged 53, Vicar of All Saints, Weston-super-Mare, formerly of Sidcup Branch and Pierhead House, Wapping. Elected 1.2.'25.

LANCASHIRE.—On March 12, HENRY JOSEPH LANCASHIRE, aged 54, a member of Sharston Branch. Elected 18.10.'35.

READ.—On March 25, JOHN READ, aged 67, a member of Aberdare Branch. Elected 30.6.'31.

ROBBINS.—On April 2, WILLIAM REGINALD ROBBINS, aged 64, a member of Durdham Down Branch. Elected 1.1.'54.

WAGSTAFF.—On February 28, WALTER WAGSTAFF, aged 58, a founder member of Biggleswade Branch. Elected 12.4.'34.

WINSTANLEY.—On March 18, JAMES FRANCIS WINSTANLEY, aged 82, founder member of Llandudno Branch. Elected 12.4.'34.

WOODHOUSE.—On March 13, the Rt. Rev. JOHN WALKER WOODHOUSE, aged 71, Bishop of Thetford, formerly of Bermondsey, Vicar of St. John's, Waterloo Road, 1921-25, and Padre of Mark III Branch. Elected 1.1.'22.

# Night Stop at Entebbe

by SIR GILES SQUIRE

The writer is a former British Ambassador to Afghanistan and a member of Toc H Overseas Advisory Panel

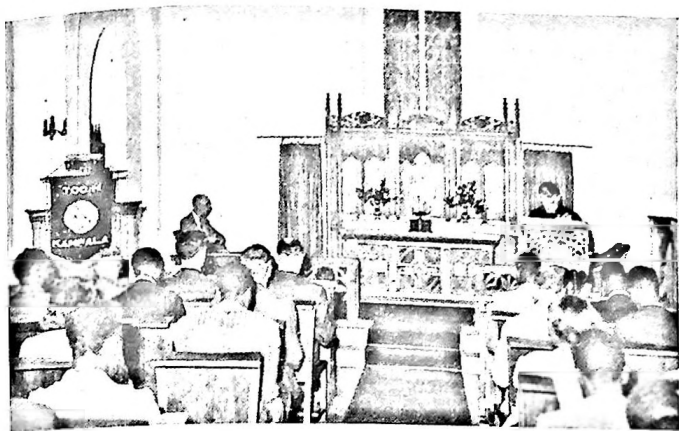
YESTERDAY our plane landed for the usual night stop at Entebbe, the official capital of the Uganda Protectorate, when I was privileged to be present on an occasion which will be a notable landmark in the history of Toc H Uganda, and to take part in a most moving and inspiring ceremony organised by Charles Potts, our Hon. Commissioner in Uganda.

Since the arrival six months ago of Aggrey Willis as a full-time worker in Kampala (the commercial capital twenty miles from Entebbe) it has been possible to devote more time to extension and Toc H has been making great strides. More Africans are being drawn into the Movement and three new groups, mainly, if not entirely, of Africans, have been started in the Engineering College, the Makerere College and in Naguru.

The evening of my arrival was chosen for a great get-together in the Lake Victoria Hotel at Entebbe when some ninety Toc H members, probationers, and well-wishers, European, Asian and African men and women, foregathered in an upper room for coffee and refreshments. The Women's Branch was there in force including eight African nurses from the Government Hospital to whom I was happy to be introduced. There too I met the Katikiro (Prime Minister) of Buganda, the Principal of the Makerere College, Dr. Stones, and many others too numerous to be mentioned individually.

At 8.30 p.m. we adjourned to the Anglican Church, only a few yards away, where Padre Lester, who has been a great supporter of Toc H in Uganda, took a service of Dedication. The Acting Governor attended and the little church was filled almost to capacity. After introductory sentences, a prayer and the hymn *Let there be Light*, I was proud to be asked to take "Light" and to initiate five new members, four African and one English. The Padre's charge which concluded the initiation was in these terms:





"... the little church was filled almost to capacity"

I charge you first, to regard yourselves always as men of two worlds, and to remember that through you and all men of goodwill, God communicates the life and purpose of the unseen world into the common life of the world around you.

I charge you to see in the life and condition of the world around you a constant challenge to your Christian manhood; to bring comfort where you find sorrow, to bring relief where you find suffering; to bring humility where you find pride. Be constant in your care for those who need the hand of God, for you are His hand; be vigilant in your concern for those who suffer wrong, for you are His sword; whether it be far or near, in your own community or in a far country feel in your person the injustice and the evil of the world, and in your person carry the remedy for all the world's pains and sorrows—the peace and the love and righteousness of our brother and our friend, Jesus of Nazareth. Carry always with you a tender care for the life of this Family in this place. It was created and nourished in love; give it your love. It was created in faith; be men of faith. It was created for God's use; let His free spirit course through it so that it can never be bound by the petty vision of small minds, but must grow and change as He lives in it and works through it.

Then followed the hymn, *Soldiers of Christ Arise*, a lesson read by Charles Potts from St. James Gospel and an address by the Padre. He spoke to us of 'Service' as the essence of Toc H, but it must be service, not with any hope or expectation of reward but as the rent which we pay for our room on earth. Finally he explained that 'doing' by itself was not enough; it involved 'being' also. Unless we ourselves try to live up to our Christian ideals our deeds will be of little worth.

The service ended with the singing of *He who would valiant be*. As we filed out into the quiet of the warm and starlit night, looking out over the wide expanse of Lake Victoria, I felt what an opportunity was here for the working out of Toc H ideals of brotherhood in East Africa, and for setting an example to the rest of the world of what racial unity can and should mean. May God give His blessing to the work thus begun.

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## BRANCH BANNERS



### X. RHYL CENTRAL

**T**HIS banner, made for Rhyl Central Branch by a local lady, has a fine red dragon of Wales superimposed on a black background, with the lettering worked in gold thread. The motto *Heb Ddim Duw A Digon* can be loosely translated into English as meaning "With God Everything. Without God—Nothing". B.K.D.

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## LIMBLESS EX-SERVICEMEN

A new twenty-eight page booklet has just been published for the guidance of limbless ex-Servicemen, setting out all the changes arising from the merger of the former Ministry of Pensions, the recent improvements in the rates of war pensions and allowances and Social Service benefits, and many other matters affecting the daily lives of the war limbless. As part of their Welfare Services, The British Limbless Ex-Service Men's Association will supply a copy free to all limbless war pensioners, on application to local branches or to BLESMA, 37 Anson Road, Victoria Park, Manchester, 14.

# MULTUM | MUCH IN PARVO | IN LITTLE

✽ A commemoration plaque to the late ARTHUR PETTIFER, M.M., "The Gen", first Vice-President of Toc H, outside his home in North London, will be unveiled by the Mayor of Tottenham and dedicated by Tubby on May 7 at 6 p.m.

✽ The CENTRAL COUNCIL holds its annual meeting in Derbyshire during the week-end, May 13-15. A report of the proceedings will be published in the JOURNAL for July.

✽ The June JOURNAL will contain an account of the FESTIVAL held in London on April 23 and 24.

✽ The "PAINTING IS A PLEASURE" Exhibition at the Trafford Gallery, 119 Mount Street, London, W.1, is to be declared open by Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., K.C.B., on Tuesday, May 17, at a private preview. It will be open to the public from Wednesday, May 18, until Saturday, July 2, daily from 10 to 6, Saturdays 10 to 1. The admission charge of 5s. is reduced to 2s. 6d. on Mondays and Saturdays. An illustrated catalogue will be available at the Gallery. The whole proceeds, including the auction of the pictures, are for the Family Purse.

✽ Congratulations to ARCHIE SMITH of Riverhead Branch (Sevenoaks) on the award of the R.S.P.C.A's Silver Medal for gallantry in rescuing a horse at considerable risk during the Tonbridge floods earlier this year.

✽ Padre NORMAN MCPHERSON (Yorkshire Areas) has accepted a call to the charge of the Victoria Avenue Congregational Church at Harrogate. His induction will take place on Saturday, September 3.

✽ THE WORLD CHAIN OF LIGHT this year will be observed on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, starting at 9 p.m. Greenwich Mean Time. Those Branches wishing to share in the 24-hour VIGIL ending at 9 p.m.. G.M.T., on Sunday, December 11, will like to know that there will be made available for their use a sequence of hourly "themes", revised but similar in outline to those used last December. It will again be for District Teams and Branches to make whatever local arrangements they wish. The Women's Association will also be making their plans to participate. There is no present intention of holding a Vigil in 1956.

# TALKING TAPE

by OLIVER WILKINSON

Writing from practical experience, the Area Secretary, Oxford & Thames Valley, here outlines some of the possibilities that the introduction of the Tape Recorder has put within reach of the Movement

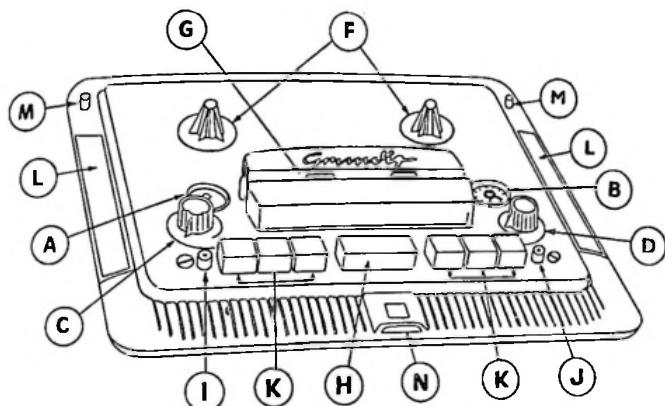
A PERSON can now go around like a recording angel with a machine that records all kinds of sound on a narrow tape and plays back immediately—in infinitely less time than it takes to develop a film. Then how to use this box of tricks? The island is full of voices. Which ones do we want to put in our box?—with every inanity or profundity established for all time . . . or mercifully wiped out, perhaps, by the simple process of recording something else over that piece of tape.

One could, perhaps, stare at the machine without one's imagination being stirred by its labelled buttons—'Recording', 'Play-back', 'Fast Re-wind', 'Telephone Plug-in', 'Amplifier', 'Remote Control' and the rest. One could hardly, however, without one's mind beginning to get an inkling of the possibilities of the machine, hear about the young boy who records his parish services and then takes his machine round to bed-ridden Christians in his community. There seems to be no flat, passive reception to these recorded services. The parson makes special references, by name, for the bed-ridden who, in their turn, join in the songs and prayer brought to them by light playing on a tape. The vicar does not cut down his visiting on that account, however!

Advertisements call attention to the 'family' advantages of a Recorder—" . . . a new Family Album . . . Baby's first word . . . etc.". Though we sometimes get nauseatingly sentimental about 'this family of Toc H', we might, even so, get a clue from this aspect of the machine. There is a place for permanent recordings in a "Family Album" of sound. It is a tragedy that, as far as I know, no recording of the



'Gen'—the late Arthur Pettifer, M.M.—exists. Let there be no mistake about this, though! These permanent recordings should be no frozen mausoleum of sound. We do not worship the dead in Toc H! We just say that they are alive. So is the past alive. A Family Album could be alive with sound. It could also be of use to the future.



What you see when you open the lid

A. Magic Eye. B. Clock Indicator. C. Volume Control. D. Tone Control. F. Spindles. G. Sound Channel. H. Stop Bar. I. Safety Button. J. Temporary Stop Button. K. Push Button Controls. L. Spool Pockets. M. Lifting Buttons. N. Front Flap.

To start us, we can, perhaps, look at some of the ways in which Toc H has already used Recorders. Some Branches in the Oxford & Thames Valley Area have put on plays to do with the Colour Bar, the World Food Situation and so on. It was found effective to have parts of scenes pre-recorded for use during the play,—even, sometimes, with the living players talking to the recorded voices. One cannot carry an Asiatic friend around in one's pocket. One can, however, record a first-hand description of famine areas by an Asiatic. One can record almost anything relevant to the matter with which a Branch play is dealing; incidental music and sound effects, as well as pre-recorded parts of the play, all on the same tape. Sound effects can



sometimes be tricky, though. After going to great trouble to record the sound of a tractor, by rigging up the machine in a barn, I found that it sounded like an old alarm clock. Luckily, however, the later recording of an old alarm clock sounded like a tractor.

### *Further Afield*

International possibilities were hinted at by an experiment tried at one of the Toc H Schools Weeks. The theme was "One World". I took a Recorder to the Training Centre of Pan-American Airways, where they were most co-operative. In this Centre, people from every quarter of the world—Americans, Turks, Austrians, Germans, Norwegians, and others—were gathered together in England for a week or so. "Let's hear the state of the world first-hand", I thought, "—what the people of the world are, in fact, saying these days . . . about their own land, about ours, about their hopes and fears". Being airport employees of senior grades, they all spoke English. The way in which the idea failed gives a warning. Setting a person before a live 'mike' does not, in itself, guarantee a live recording; however willing and able, he may not, all at once, be able to express thoughts fluently and concisely. All such improvised recordings need cutting before use. This, however, needs the use of a second Recorder and time. I did not have either. The result was that the school-boys heard a fairly interesting recording which could have been with further editing, a much more concise, significant and fascinating tour around a world seething with ideas, tensions and events.

Possibilities in international communication were shown by the Toc H Area Secretary for South Australia. A roll of recording tape from Australia arrived casually with the post one morning. On playing it on a Recorder, I found that Peter Seymour-Price was talking to me—just like that—in the room; though he was far away over quite a few oceans and Continents. I heard the Adelaide cars in the background, and Peter S-P sipping his Australian beer with obvious lack of relish. Heat of an Australian summer seemed to ooze out of the machine into the winter of an Oxford room. The gist of the matter had to do with the Australian Festival. There were some points to do



with the drama which, he said, he could describe only by word of mouth, rather than by writing. In the process he also gave, very interestingly, a description of the Australian scene and state of mind. Would I, he asked then, record my versions of the dramatic scenes and send the whole lot back to Australia, like a good chap. He had talked, by now, for an hour—and it was an incomparably better way than any writing for his particular purpose. I rewound the tape, pressed another button, and began—"I see what you mean, Peter. I like your scenes. I'd say . . ."—then I talked at some length. I took out the reel of tape, and posted it back towards the Australian summer—carrying my no doubt invaluable advice, and the snuffles of an English February.

### *Permanent Record*

There are many occasions and events that might be kept permanently. I took a Recorder round the Lake District. I had become used to the accents and characters of these northern tribes of Toc H, but, on my return south, I found that the recordings had an almost foreign fascination. Here was the Lake District of Toc H again, in snatches of talk and song, and in the voices of those people who had taken up the 'mike' to speak about their ideas. (This all had to be lost, however, wiped out, for the machine and tape did not belong to us.) We were lucky enough to get Tubby to describe, absolutely spontaneously, the 'Old House' as though he was standing by its doors again in 1917. That tape has been bought for Toc H, for it was far too good to lose.

### *Amusement and Purpose*

Use the Recorder for a purpose—or use it for fun. It certainly can be great fun as an evening's amusement—and sometimes interesting discoveries are made in that way. Be careful, though! If you use the machine aimlessly for too long, its possibilities will over-reach your imagination and exhaust your mind. In its way, the machine is part of all the new ideas and possibilities by which we are surrounded, and for which we have to re-orientate ourselves. To use this machine with purpose, and to keep an open mind, is the best way—as indeed, it is with all our opulent jungle of new thoughts and discoveries.



# TEN YEARS OF UNO

by WILFRED GURNEY

The writer is Publicity Officer for the United Nations Association and a Toc H Builder

JUNE 26 will be the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Charter of the United Nations and this year the Charter automatically comes up for review. Has it succeeded in the objects for which it was created, and if not, why not? What were these objects?

They are set out in the preamble to the Charter—to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, the Peoples of the United Nations reaffirm their faith in fundamental human rights and in the dignity and worth of the human person; in the equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small. To establish conditions of justice and international law; to practise tolerance and good neighbourliness to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom, and for these ends to employ international machinery for the promotion of the economic and social advancement of all peoples.

Surely this is a one hundred per cent. Christian ideal and should have the active support of all Branches of Toc H. But this idea of planning on a world scale to build up positive conditions of peace is a new one and is not very well understood by the public, and no government of any country can go far ahead of the opinions of its people.

The United Nations Association (25 Charles Street, London, W.1) is the voluntary society in Great Britain for educating the public in this country in the work of UNO. Last year it concentrated on one aspect of this work—the Children's Fund. As a result of an appeal made in last October's number of the JOURNAL, and of a similar appeal in the LOG, many Branches of Toc H (both men's and women's) gave active support to the UNICEF campaign and materially contributed to its success.

UNA's objective this year is rededication to service, and one of its first tasks is to assess the present state of public opinion by a Gallup Poll. UNA will appreciate all the help Toc H Branches can give in this work.





# DON'T WASTE THEM

by CHARLES WAKE

AS I WRITE these words negotiations are proceeding in an office nearby to end the dispute which has kept most Londoners without a daily newspaper for three weeks. An unexpected problem which arose in my own life because of this absence of newspapers set me wondering whether others were encountering secondary difficulties from the same cause.

Then there came to the door a small boy asking for old newspapers which he hoped to sell to a fried fish shop. Remembering what Boyd Orr had said twenty years ago in "Health, Wealth and Income" about the important part fish and chips had played in maintaining the nutritional standards of a large section of the population I was reminded of yet another important secondary use of newspapers.

But I must get back to my own problem because it is one which affects Toc H and its income. One of the operations for turning other pieces of paper into money for the Family Purse is cleaning stamps off accompanying fragments of envelopes and subsequent drying of the stamps on newspapers.

The newspaper strike is now over and my copies of *The Times* are again available, are you going to help me to put them to a satisfactory and profitable secondary use? Please send me all the stamps that come your way from overseas countries and in addition, but if possible in a separate packet, all copies of Great Britain issues of the 3d. value upwards. These could help provide at least £100 per annum for the Family Purse if all would help. Consideration of space at 142 St. Margarets Road, Edgware, Middlesex, makes it impossible for me to cope with the  $\frac{1}{2}$ d. to  $2\frac{1}{2}$ d. values of Great Britain.



# OUR RURAL HERITAGE

by AILSA M. PARRY

The Association of Agriculture

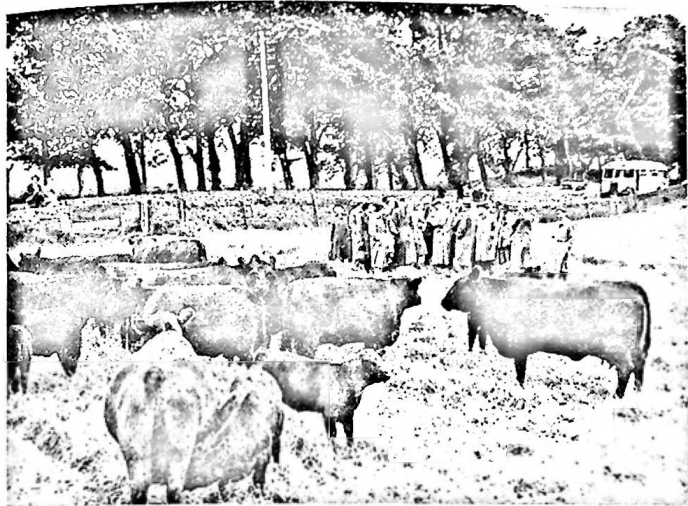
MANY PEOPLE living in towns, though they know that out in the countryside there are farmers producing food, do not consider that agriculture—to give the widest term to all the activities of the countryside—is any concern of theirs. It is only in times of national emergency—as was seen during the last two wars—that people generally become fully aware of their ultimate dependence on the soil of their own country. Between the two wars this basic dependence was lost sight of mainly because of the cheap food which was imported from overseas. As a result British agriculture was sadly neglected and, when the second war broke out, we were unprepared to feed ourselves and tremendous demands were made upon the farming community. These demands they met nobly, not only by increasing production but also by providing a refuge, in the country towns and villages, for the children from the threatened cities. With these contacts between town and country came a shocked realisation of the gap between town and country dwellers—how far these town children were from their rural heritage and what a deprivation this was!

## *Bridging the Gap*

Towards the end of the war a number of thinking people came to the conclusion that something must be done to bridge this gap between town and country and to bring about a better understanding between them. From the economic point of view it would be dangerous to allow our fine agricultural industry to slip back into the state in which it was between the wars; the rise in world populations and better standards of living in under-developed countries will limit available supplies of cheap imported food and, if the peoples of the world are to be fed adequately, Great Britain and other wealthy countries should no longer expect an abundance. From a social point of view townsmen and countrymen should have greater opportunities of understanding each other's way of life and of sharing in their common rural heritage. As a result of discussion between representatives of farmers, bankers, industrialists and educationalists, the Asso-

ciation of Agriculture was formed and, after a preliminary period of publicity, the Association devoted itself to a long term educational policy.

For the past seven years it has been organising courses for teachers to encourage them to use rural material in everyday teaching and publishing a quarterly journal on agricultural and educational subjects. More recently courses of a different nature have been held to attract people of all ages and of all

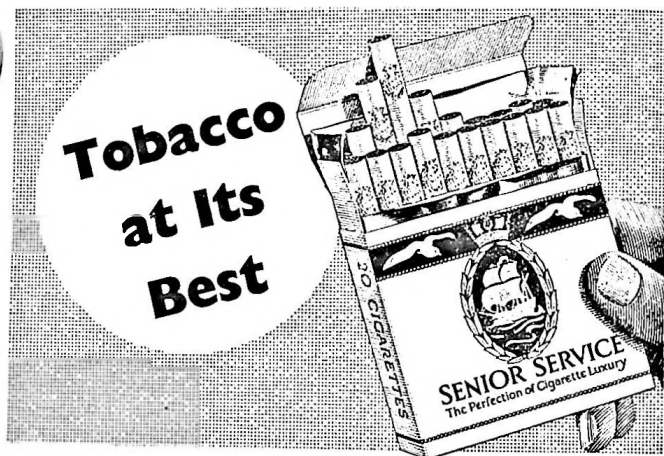


Members of a course inspecting an Aberdeen-Angus herd at Messrs. Boot's farm, near Brechin, Angus

occupations to help them to understand the countryside of Great Britain. These latter developments are in no way academic courses but are planned as holidays with an interest. In co-operation with the Youth Hostels Association and the Holiday Fellowship Limited, experts are invited to give talks on specific aspects of the countryside and to lead excursions on foot and by coach to illustrate their points. The subjects are widely varied—geologists and geographers describe the shape of the countryside, the origins of its form and how it is used; naturalists tell of the wild life; archæologists and historians bring to life the past inhabitants of these islands, and farmers and scientists explain the complex and fascinating art of husbandry.

The Association has encouraged schools to visit real farms and many farmers have been very co-operative in this way. It is, however, not possible for many schools—and for many farmers—to take part in such exchanges and, to overcome this difficulty, the Association has instituted a scheme whereby full particulars of real farms are supplied to schools and others who wish to study them. In this way an unlimited number of children and adults may study the same farm or, in fact, several farms many miles from their homes. There are now eight of these farms in England, Scotland and Wales and the scheme is being extended to include Commonwealth farms.

The encouragement the Association has received from agriculturalists, educationalists and industrialists endorses the value of its social work in bringing about a better understanding between sections of the community which, though on the surface are so different, are, in reality, dependent upon one another. Enquiries relating to its activities are welcomed by the General Secretary, The Association of Agriculture, 53 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.



**SENIOR SERVICE** *Satisfy*

# FAR CRY

## NOTES AND NEWS FROM DISTANT PARTS



Contributed by GEOFF MARTIN, Overseas Secretary

### ABOARD H.M.A.S. VENGEANCE

IT WOULD APPEAR that the fine Toc H nautical traditions of the Royal Australian Navy inaugurated by Padre "Chick" Fawell aboard Australia's first aircraft carrier, and carried on so successfully by Padre J. O. Were aboard H.M.A.S. *Sydney* are safe in the keeping of Padre Patrick J. Helyer of H.M.A.S. *Vengeance*, and his men.

Since we met Padre Helyer in Australian H.Q. a few weeks ago his good ship has travelled far and her personnel seen much. Correspondence reached us from Korean waters and again upon the return of the *Vengeance* to her home port, Sydney.

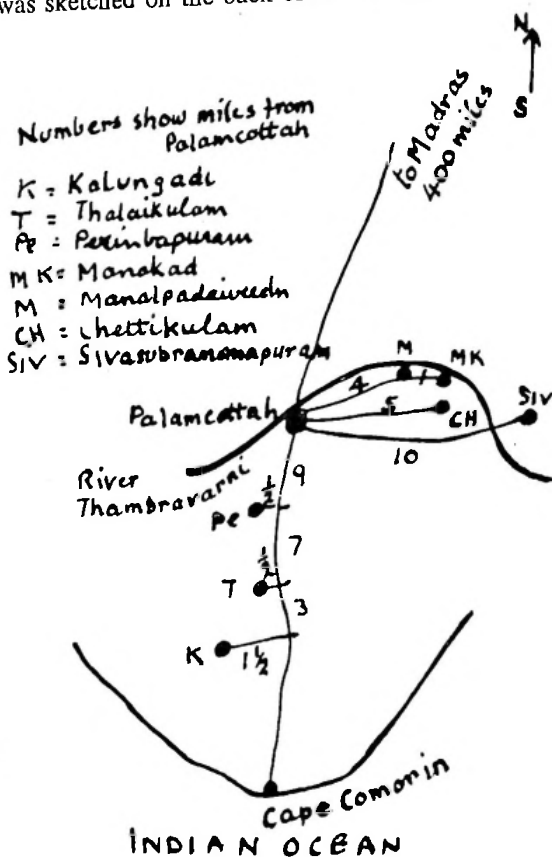
At the outset of the trip to Korean waters the Toc H group decided as their special job to do their level best for the pathetic inmates of a sub-normal children's home in New South Wales. The very character of the disabilities of these children limited the choice of toys to which Toc H men decided to treat the youngsters.

And now we quote in part from one of Padre Helyer's letters: "In Kure, S.B.A. Phil Payne helped by S.B.A. Harry Fisher and S.B.A.(R) Dennis McDermott purchased forty rubber balls, with attractive colours, each ball sitting in a little net, and forty packets of beautiful pencils. On our return home, and before proceeding on Christmas leave, Leading Cook Spricht took the toys to the Children's Home. On December 11 it was my joy to represent our Toc H group and attend the children's party at the sub-normal Children's Society Home at West Ryde. The children were there, parents were there, friends and the local Alderman, too. The children did enjoy their party, but it was sad to see those poor little souls."

"THE LINK" (Australia).

## FROM SOUTH INDIA

This letter from M. Chelliah, gives the latest news of progress among the villages around Palamcottah. The rough map was sketched on the back of his air letter.



"I am pleased to send you six copies of the prayer and songs in Tamil, which I was directed to do by Sri R. D. Paul only a few days ago. You will feel happy to know something about the village wings in South India and their growth; so I add a few lines about them. The following are the wings functioning in the following villages.

Kalungadi, fourteen members; Manakad, fifteen members; Manalpadaiveedn, twenty-eight members; Sivasubranomapuram, eight members; Thalaikulam, twenty members; Perinbapuram, eighteen members; Chettikulam, five members.

In the rough sketch, you can find the location of the villages, where wings are working.

Each wing has got its elected office bearers—Secretary, Treasurer and President. Meet twice in a month. Jobs—sick visiting, feeding or looking after the poor—Gospel work—(Street lighting by means of ten hurricane lamps—this is at Kalungadi).

They like the fellowship experienced by the members among themselves. Toc H requires real Christian life to take in Toc H wings in villages or even in towns and to have deep roots. Again in the summer I am going round to spread wings in more villages.

Please pray for them. With best wishes, Yours sincerely,

M. CHELLIAH, *In Charge of Wings.*

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## AN OVERSEAS EVENING

THE HISTORIC CRYPT of St. Martin-in-the-Fields held a strong 'overseas' atmosphere on the evening of April 14 when members and friends gathered to hear Sir Robert Tredgold, Chief Justice of Southern Rhodesia and Hon. Toc H Commissioner for Central Africa.

Early in the meeting the Chairman, 'Tosher' Elliot, after welcoming many distinguished visitors, called for five-minute talks from Napier Birks (Argentina), Hugh Beeton ("Overseas Service") and Sir Giles Squire, newly returned from a flying visit to Uganda.

Sir Robert then told of the efforts being made towards building up a multi-racial society in Central Africa and said that, in his view, the greatest chance of success in solving racial prejudices was on a Toc H basis. He called for a sympathetic understanding in Britain of the problems being faced in Central Africa today.

During the evening, Tubby, on behalf of the members of Bulawayo Branch, presented Sir Robert and Lady Tredgold with a copy of the Melville Harcourt biography and, at the close, the Rev. Harold Howe, a former Toc H Administrator, led home-going prayers.

# ST. GEORGE'S CRYPT

by FRANK GROUT

Hon. Area Treasurer of Toc H in West Yorkshire

IN THE DAYS of industrial depression in 1930, the then Vicar of St. George's Church, in the centre of Leeds, the late Don Robins, saw the need of a place where the many unemployed men of the City could spend their days of enforced idleness. With the help of Toc H volunteers and other workers, he cleared the Crypt which was a burial vault beneath the Church and on October 14 it was formally opened.

Although the Crypt at that time remained open during the day only and was intended primarily for men living in Leeds, many itinerant unemployed men soon began to shelter there. It became obvious to Don Robins that the Crypt must remain open at night and arrangements were also made for free food to be distributed. Thus the Crypt as it is known today came into being.

With the return of industry to prosperity, the Crypt turned its attention to the homeless and after the war it became firmly established as a night shelter. A clothing store was built up from clothing donated to the Crypt and women and children, as well as men, are clothed. A kitchen and a bathroom were installed.

In 1948, Don Robins died and the public demonstration of affection and sorrow bore witness to his love and inspiration. He was succeeded by the present Vicar, the Rev. Tony Waite, under whose leadership and vision the work of the Crypt has continued.

The available space limits the number of men sheltered nightly to twenty-five, each of whom is given a meal and a bench on which to sleep. The men are allowed to leave in the morning without being required for domestic chores thus giving them every opportunity of finding work or continuing their travels.

To help those men who earnestly desire to settle down in Leeds and become rehabilitated, in July, 1954, the Crypt acquired a small terrace house and Faith Lodge, as it is now called, has beds for nine men who live as a Christian family



with the Warden of the Crypt, the Rev. R. de C. Allen, as its head. Those who are able to do so immediately are encouraged to take up normal employment and when they are self-supporting lodging accommodation is found for them.

Even Faith Lodge is not enough. On the one hand there is no real comfort there and, at the best, it offers only temporary accommodation, while, on the other, when men leave they



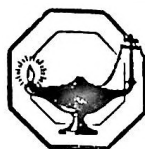
St. George's Crypt: 'firmly established as a night shelter'

may feel friendless or their lodgings may not offer more than mere shelter. For some, this inevitably means a return to their former lives. Voluntary donations have now enabled the Crypt to furnish a room near the Church where there are newspapers, a radio set, indoor games and, in cold weather, a roaring fire. Other activities of the Crypt consist of the distribution at Christmas of food parcels and fuel to the aged, the sick and the poor.

To commemorate the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the Crypt, a week of special activities is to be organised during the period October 2-8. The theme of Crypt Week will be the growth of the work commenced during the depression of 1930 by the late Don Robins which is now carried on by the present Vicar.



# FROM ALL PARTS DIRECT from AREAS



**SUSSEX**—A new sense of adventure marked the evening spent at **Wishborough Green** by members of a number of **West Sussex Branches**. For some, this was their first experiment in 'canvassing' a community. They talked **Toc H** in more than thirty homes. "It's surprisingly easy to talk about **Toc H** when once you get started—and this you have to do pretty quickly when invited into someone's home. What's more, it's fun", said one member.

A determined effort to make and maintain contact with local lads away on **National Service** is being made by **Reigate & Redhill** and **Horley Branches**. Others will also be taking up this valuable work quite soon. **C.A.C.**

**SOUTH WESTERN**—The Founder Padre spent ten days with us during March. Displaying his usual energy, Tubby toured the whole Area from one end to the other and besides speaking at five big Guest-nights, he preached in **Exeter** and **Truro** Cathedrals, visited two Public Schools, spent a day each with the Army and the Navy at **Plymouth** and made a whole host of personal contacts with old and new friends. A general electricity failure heralded his arrival, but afterwards he set us on fire almost literally as well as figuratively—the Civic Hall at **Totnes** was accidentally burnt down the day after his visit there. **M.B.E.**

**LAKELAND**—The Open Prison in South Westmorland affords excellent opportunities for service by nearby Branches. **Milnthorpe** Branch provides not only entertainment at the prison at frequent intervals, but some members have become Home Office visitors and undertake this important personal task in addition to other work. There is in any district local resentment and fear about the advent of such institutions and the kind of liaison created by the Branch's work at the prison helps to break this down. **Arnside** Branch in the same district co-operates with **Milnthorpe** in the provision of entertainment and, apart from this amusing the prisoners (we hope), it also helps more people to understand the work of the prison and creates a more enlightened view of the value of such remedial work. **I.F.**

**YORKSHIRE**—The recent snowfall presented its own particular problems to **Toc H**. One of the members of a new group at **Rilling-ton**, made two journeys of a mile at night, dragging a sledge through thick snow, to deliver logs to an old lady, who was without fuel. Other members of the group organised a rota to drive the delivery van of a tradesman who had fallen ill.

A meeting has been held at the Army Apprentices School (Commandant: Col. Carver, v.c.) **Pennypots**, **Harrogate**, and it is hoped that more will follow.

**Askrigg** collected twenty-five sacks of clothing for displaced persons, whilst **Woodlands** group (**Doncaster**) have completely

redecorated a cottage, the home of two old people who were in danger of being turned out because of its condition.  
**Cleckheaton**, in the heart of the woollen industry, is our next objective, and a meeting has been arranged to take place this month.  
J.W.M.

**W. LONDON**—The beginning of the next Association Football season will coincide with the relaying of commentaries on matches played on Chelsea football ground to patients in Fulham and St. Mary Abbot's Hospital. This has been made possible through the co-operation of Chelsea and Fulham Branches with British Relay Wireless, Ltd.

In January, 1950, **Wimbledon** Branch founded a mobile Cinema Unit. It recently celebrated its 500th Programme. The audiences have totalled 17,000. There are some fifty-eight members of the Cinema Unit, not all of them belonging to Toc H.

**Fulham** Branch has deemed it wise to close down and to link up with its near neighbour, **Chelsea**.  
J.D.

**SCOTLAND**—Mixed Teams are becoming popular and are functioning successfully in several Districts.

A "Grouse" shoot, arranged by **Renfrewshire** District, was held recently at Scottish Headquarters, but the bag was mainly ground game. It is expected that a large number of "grouses" will be in evidence at the Scottish Council week-end in May, when our old friend **Ken Bloxham** will be the main target.

**Miss McCallum**, the cornerstone of our Headquarters, leaves us this month after many years of faithful service. Like **Robert the Bruce**, she had infinite patience with the members and was loved by all. Her departure owing to ill-health is much regretted.  
J.L.O.

**KENT**—There is great activity in **Thanet** district where preparations are well advanced for their mixed summer camp for children from the **Frances Mary Buss** Youth Club, in the East End of London, who would otherwise have little chance of a seaside holiday.

Keen interest is shown and valuable service rendered in many places by prison-visiting. **Maidstone** and **East Sheppey** have been engaged upon this work for some time. **Buckland**, in **Dover**, have just started.  
C.A.C.

**WESTERN**—**Glastonbury** Branch recently celebrated their Twenty-first Birthday by holding a dinner and **Henleaze** Branch (**Bristol**) are holding their Twenty-first Birthday and Rededication on Friday, May 6, when the chief guest will be **Greeno**. Members in **Swindon** District are taking turns in acting as hosts at the local Anglo-American Services Club.  
W.F.B.

**MANCHESTER**—**Alderman W. R. Fox, J.P.**, a member of **Reddish** Branch is the new Mayor of **Stockport** and is one of the youngest men to have held that office. Over 120 members from the **Manchester** Districts gathered at **Mark XIV** for a "Question and Answer" evening with the Administrator. The **Manchester Children's** Camp will again be held at **Rhyl** this year, in co-operation with the **Clwyd** District. Two weeks of the **Stockport Children's** Camp will be devoted to caring for mentally retarded children. For the fifth successive year the **Toc H Rugby Football Club** are organising a seven-a-side competition, proceeds to be devoted to the **Children's** Camp Funds.  
G.L.L.

FROM ALL PARTS

**WEST MIDLANDS**—Arising out of a television programme Lye Branch are producing gadgets which will make life easier for disabled people. **Marches District** held a most successful week-end Conference at Nash Court with Norman Motley as the leader. Norman also addressed District Gatherings at **Birmingham** and **Worcester** and the annual Guest-night organised by **Broadway**. Congratulations to the latter on winning the H.I.C. Cup for 1953/54. Councillor Harry Chatterley, a member of **Droitwich Branch** since its inception is to be the Borough's next Mayor. J.H.M.S.

**NORTHERN**—Inaugural meetings at **Wallsend** and **North Ormesby** were held during April, and the possibilities are being explored of starting a Branch in **Durham City**. During a recent visit Norman Motley took part in a successful meeting at **Durham Colleges**, and also spoke about Toc H at a Parent/Teacher meeting arranged by **Middlesbrough**. The inaugural meeting in March at **Craghead** was followed by a further meeting in April. About fifty members attended the Executive Week-end at **Gilsland Co-operative Home** where they met John Callf and discussed Leadership, Toc H and Industrial Society and Toc H Relationship with Universities and Colleges. C.V.Y.

**SURREY**—Two interesting Conferences have recently been held. The first, a District one, at **Leatherhead** where the Editor of the JOURNAL spoke on "I Think this Matters" and later took the chair at a Brains Trust. The other was an Area week-end Conference at **Farnham Castle**, intended primarily for potential leaders and those who had not been before to such a conference. The speaker was Padre Herbert Leggate. J.D.

**BEDS & HERTS**—For the fourth year running a Children's Sports Day is being arranged by **Sandy Branch**, with the help of other organisations, to take place in the grounds of **Sandye Place**.

**WALES**—A new group has started at **Bridgend, Glam.**, and the old Branch at **Fishguard, Pemb.**, has been revived. There are also signs of a revival at **Aberystwyth, Cards**. In a small country village in **Carmarthen, Llanllwch Branch**—always keen on getting Builders—are now looking for their twentieth. B.K.D.

**OXFORD & THAMES VALLEY**—New Branch **South Reading**—Secretary, Wilf Adkins, 151 Northcourt Avenue, Reading, Berks . . . lively lot, this.

A most useful Conference on the Forward Committee's Report, was held at the **Rose Hill Conference Centre, Caversham**, organised excellently by the **Caversham Branch**. Speakers included Harry Gell—who helped to create the Report, and who was a really great help to us. Mr. Edmunson, a Jamaican studying at **Reading University**, rooted out all traces of the colour bar in us with tremendous and magnificent vigour. An old friend, Eric Saywell, talked to us about Industry, out of his very considerable experience in **Slough**. O.M.W.

**NOTTS & DERBY**—**Castle Donington** have produced a folder giving general information about the town and its amenities. A copy is given to every new family on the day of their moving into the town. **Worksop** have at last got their film projector, and a programme of shows to local hospitals is now well under way. G.A.F.

**NORTH WESTERN**—A happy and useful training week-end was held recently in Liverpool. Alec Churcher was the guest-speaker and talked about "the Life and Worth of the Branch". In 24 hours we found a truer perspective and reinforced friendships. F.J.G.

**SOUTHERN**—Co-ordination between widely separated rural Branches has resulted in an evening's outing being arranged on Wednesday, June 15, when North Baddesley and Romsey Branches will convey by private cars some thirty crippled people, members of the Inskip League in Romsey, to Wilton and the Branch there have readily agreed to provide tea and entertainment.

Portsmouth Hospitals are wired for radio relay but the Management Committee are unable to afford the cost of providing headphones. Will members please send any old, unwanted headphones to: Toc H, Waverley Road, Southsea, for repair and installation. A.K.



George Moore at the microphone with Mabel and Wilfred Pickles during a rehearsal of the "Have a Go" programme

## WILFRED HAS A GO!

When the popular B.B.C. feature "Have a Go" recently visited Saffron Walden amongst the members of the audience taking part in the programme was GEORGE MOORE, who is also a member of the local Toc H Branch. On seeing George's badge, WILFRED PICKLES said some complimentary things about the Movement and, in reply, George invited him to become a Toc H Builder. Subsequently Mr. Pickles joined the 297 other friends who have become Toc H Builders since November 1, 1954.



## OPEN HUSTINGS

*The Editor welcomes letters on all matters concerning Toc H. For reasons of space the right is reserved to shorten letters submitted, and every effort is made to print a representative selection from those received.*

### Bantu Education Act

I AGREE with Mike Hough that the Bantu Education Act has made provision for the two things set out in his letter in the April JOURNAL, and no doubt, as in this country, education can be better organised under one Committee provided, of course, that the education offered is the same for all members of the community and not graded to suit "colour" or "racial" groups. This is where the Churches are at issue with the Act. The "outbursts" are not, in my case, outbursts based on political reasons. I am expressing in a humble manner my views as a member of the world-wide Church of Christ.

In support of the statements made in my previous letter and in reply to Mike's defence on behalf of the African Government's action, I wish to quote the following extracts:

"With regard to education, we believe that it is morally wrong to educate one particular racial group in such a way as to fit its members only for subordinate and inferior positions".

"The Policy underlying this Act has been officially interpreted by the Minister of Native Affairs:—It condemns the existing educational system (before the passing of the Bantu Act) because it produces a class which "feels that its spiritual, economic

and political home is among the civilised community of South Africa, that is, the Europeans! Is civilisation then for Europeans only? Large numbers must, as the Minister says, earn their living in the service of Europeans. For these large numbers there will be no further education than is necessary to fit them for this."

*"The Voice of the Church".*

"The intention of the Bantu Education Act was to provide a form of training which will fit Africans who receive it to take their place in an uncivilised community in South Africa. There is no thought of those who are to be educated, as persons, but only as members of a particular ethnic group. In conscience it is impossible for me to take any part, however, remotely, or indirectly in implementing such a policy."

*Bishop of Johannesburg.*

"Whatever else the Bantu Education Act may be it is also an act of revenge for the deeds of those missionaries who came from Europe at the beginning of the last century, who brought with them revolutionary ideas of the brotherhood of man."

*—Alan Paton.*

Can these people be so utterly wrong? Can you imagine the Church taking such a serious view as it does of the Bantu Education Act and also of *Apartheid* if, as Mike says, the system of education is going to

be a great improvement to all the people in South Africa and not just the chosen few.

The system of *Apartheid* which is also being carried out there, in my view, also supports the Church's contentions of "colour bar" and the South African Government appears to fail to realise or shuts its eyes to the fact that the Africans are human beings who are entitled to share in determining their position in South African society. Here again, I quote from a sermon by the Bishop of Johannesburg, "Another example of the way in which these problems press upon us at the present time in that great City (Johannesburg) in the Transvaal, is the threat to exclude every single non-European from our University. To those who live in the Church in these parts, this is a most grave matter, because we believe that there might at any rate, be some Universities in South Africa in which students from our different ethnic groups may come to know and understand one another and have their lives enriched by the interchanging of ideas. So far this has been going on in our (the Church) Universities for years, to the great benefit of all concerned. And now, it is suggested that it should end. Why? Merely to satisfy a particular racist ideology which is clean contrary to the teaching of both Bible and Church".

Does this not clearly indicate why the Authorities do not want the Church to continue with their way of education.

I am convinced that Racism in South Africa has become a most serious problem and the Government is rushing on with a policy based on a crude rigid "Colourism" popular with its supporters as an apparent protection of the comfortable way

of life of the dominant "white" group. The prayers of all Christians are asked for God to grant to the peoples of South Africa deliverance from their sorrow and suffering.

*Blaby, Leicester.* JIM BETTS.

### Admission to Toc H

HAVING read the correspondence of K. Prideaux-Brune and F. Moses, may I call attention to the TOC H SIGNPOST which states that the applicant for membership "accepts and pledges himself to work for the Objects of Toc H (as defined by the Royal Charter) and that he acknowledges that his attention has been drawn to the Main Resolution and the Four Points of the Compass. No credal or other tests are required of him. He commits himself to being no more than a 'tryer', he is allying himself with a movement which has a Christian foundation and motive". Briefly, he undertakes "through the common Christian life of the Association, to seek God".

An adequate period of probation (or association) is, of course, necessary in order that he may learn what Toc H really means and to give him time to decide whether he can accept the obligations of membership. But, provided the above conditions are fulfilled, on what grounds can the applicant be excluded and who would presume to do so!

Peter Monie, in TOC H UNDER WEIGH (p. 12) defined the proper attitude towards membership and his words are just as relevant today as when they were first written about thirty years ago. If they were read more often, there would be fewer attempts to change the nature of Toc H to suit other purposes or desires, for it should then be realised that

only by preserving the wide appeal of its original conception can Toc H serve God most effectively.

Southgate Branch. E. W. NORRIS.

### Holidays

WITH the approach of summer our Family Service Units in Birmingham, Bradford, Bristol, Leicester, Liverpool, Manchester, Sheffield, York and London are again making arrangements for holidays for the children of the families with whom we are working. These children often live in the most squalid surroundings, in homes lacking even a minimum of comfort, often sadly neglected by their parents.

A holiday in a good home and happy surroundings can mean so much to such children. Apart from the happiness that it brings, we find from experience that they derive the greatest benefit both physically and mentally.

We would be most grateful if any members would be willing to offer hospitality to a child or children—preferably during the school holidays. We make the arrangements for travelling, etc. and see that the child is clean and properly clothed.

Offers should be sent to me at the address below and I would be pleased to supply additional information on request.

DAVID JONES,  
Secretary.

Family Service Units,  
25 St. Mary's Grove,  
London, N.1.

### Prison Gardens

MAY I appeal to any enthusiastic Toc H gardeners who may be dividing or thinning out their stock of perennials, etc. to save any surplus for some of the prison gardens. Details and names of prisons eager to have these may be obtained from Mrs. Romanné James, "Fair Croft," Brecon, S. Wales, who is Hon. Sec. of Prison Gardens, a branch of the National Gardens Guild; or myself. We feel so sure that the planting, making and upkeep of a prison garden by the inmates is to be encouraged in every possible way. A consignment of plants is being sent off this month from Royston. Stock for future plantings will be most welcome.

H. J. BOND.

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